

PROGRAM UPDATE

Office of Worker and Community Transition United States Department of Energy October - December 2001

WORK FORCE RESTRUCTURING ACTIVITIES

Work Force Restructuring at Idaho

On November 14, 2001, the Idaho Operations Office implemented the first of a two-part Involuntary Separation Program (ISP) at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory that affected about 125 employees. The second part of the ISP will be completed during the last quarter of fiscal year 2002.

Work Force Restructuring at West Valley

On December 17, 2001, the Ohio Field Office implemented an Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) and a Voluntary Separation Program (VSP) at the West Valley Nuclear Services Company. Both programs will close on January 31, 2002. As of January 24, 2002, 60 applications have been received for the ERI and 22 have been received for the VSP.

COMMUNITY TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

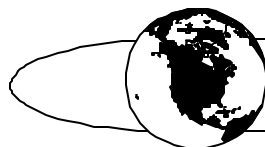
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Mike Owen, Director of the Office of Worker and Community Transition (the Office) attended and spoke at Energy Community Alliance's fall conference in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, on October 17-19, 2001. This conference was an opportunity for Mike to meet stakeholders and discuss his vision for the Office. While at the conference, he took a tour of the East Tennessee Technology Park, the Horizon Center, the National Transportation Center, and other Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee projects.

ASSET MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Electronic Assets Stewardship Program

The Asset Management Program continues to represent the Department of Energy at the White House Office of Federal Environment Executive, under the Council on Environmental Quality. This office leads the federal effort on implementing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Improving Environmental Management of Electronic Assets.



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Following the successful completion of the Electronic Stewardship Forum (ESF) in October, it was agreed that there was a need to develop government-wide strategies to help reduce the overall environmental and energy impacts of the use and disposal of electronics assets throughout the Federal Government. Two major objectives were identified at the ESF: 1) development of a government-wide strategy on electronic stewardship that would reduce energy use and promote favorable environmental practices, and 2) promoting the growth of Federal Government infrastructure for the reuse, demanufacture, and recycling of obsolete electronic assets.

The Federal Network for Sustainability, an initiative focused on the west coast and organized to help Federal Agencies implement sustainable practices, will be addressing Electronic Products Stewardship. Through the Federal Network on Sustainability, there will be an effort to increase the number of Federal Agencies and Departments to become members of the MOU on Improving Environmental Management of Electronic Assets.

The signatories to the MOU have begun efforts to develop the Federal Government strategy on electronic stewardship. Monthly meetings will be convened to begin work on defining the elements necessary to comprise an effective strategy. There will be three major elements in the strategy: 1) defining the appropriate role of the Federal Government in the acquisition of electronic assets to encourage environmentally-sound and energy-efficient practices; 2) ensuring preferential utilization in the federal workplace of electronic assets which are environmentally-sound and energy-efficient; and 3) promoting the growth of the reuse, demanufacture, and recycle of obsolete electronic assets to reduce adverse environmental impacts and promote energy efficiency.

Strategic and Critical Materials

The Asset Management Program is continuing to work closely with the Office of Defense Programs, Savannah River Site, Albuquerque Operations Office, and the Los Alamos and Livermore National Laboratories in the acquisition of critical materials from the Defense National Stockpile Center (the Stockpile) for national security needs. The efforts to-date have addressed the issue of whether the critical materials are to be purchased or loaned from the Stockpile, which would affect the type of legal instrument to be concluded between the Department and the Stockpile.

The Asset Management Program has been assisting Defense Programs and field sites in analyzing the issues necessary to complete the transactions with the Stockpile. These include, but are not limited to, differences in approach between short- and long-term loan agreements, types of commitments for payment between short-term (1 fiscal year), and long-term (multiple fiscal years) purchases which would be dictated by appropriated funds and institution of administrative procedures to standardize the acquisition of critical materials from the Stockpile.

The Asset Management Program is providing guidance and assistance to both the Office of Defense Programs and the Stockpile to institute a smooth working relationship between the Departments of Energy and Defense in meeting national security needs.